

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph starting at page 4, line 26 with the following amended paragraph:

The compounds of the invention can be prepared by means of or analogous to the methods as described by Burg et al., J. Am. Chem. Soc. 59, 780 (1936~~1937~~) for BH_3CO ; Malone et al., Inorg. Chem. 6, 817 (1967) for $\text{M}_2[\text{H}_3\text{B-COO}]$ and $\text{M}[\text{H}_3\text{B-COOC}_2\text{H}_5]$; Howe et al., Inorg. Chem. 10, 930 (1971) for $\text{M}[\text{H}_3\text{B-CONH}_2]$; Spielvogel et al., J. Am. Chem. Soc. 102, 6343 (1980) for $[\text{H}_3\text{N-BH}_2\text{-COOH}]$ and $[(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{N-BH}_2\text{-CONHC}_2\text{H}_5]$; Spielvogel et al., Inorg. Chem. 23, 4322 (1984) for $[(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{N-BH}_2\text{-COOCH}_3]$; Spielvogel et al., Inorg. Chem. 23, 1776 (1984) and J. Am. Chem. Soc. 98, 5702 (1976) for $[\text{H}_3\text{N-BH}_2\text{-CONH}_2]$, $[(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{HN-BH}_2\text{-CONHC}_2\text{H}_5]$.